was constituted to examine the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State relations and submit its views and recommendations to the Council. The tenure of the said Committee was extended from time to time, the last term being upto 30.6.1996. The work done by the Sub-Committee is summarised below:—

Number of recommendations

Accepted with/ without modifications	155
Not accepted	24
On which no concensus has been reached	11
Partially considered	1
Yet to be finalised	56
	247

The recommendations finalised by the Sub-Committee could not be considered by the Inter-State Council which remained dormant for about six years. The UF Government has reactivated the Council. The second meeting of the Council was held on 15.10.1996 wherein 179 recommendations finalised by the Sub-Committee were broadly endorsed. It was also recommended that there should be a Standing Committee of the Council for continuous consultations and processing of matters for the consideration of the council. The Standing Committee was constituted on 5.12.96. It has held four meetings so far. The following important subjects were discussed in these meetings:—

(i) Alternative Scheme of Devolution of share in Central Taxes to States submitted by the Ministry of Finance.

(ii) Amendment to article 356 of the Constitution.

(iii) Centre-State Financial Relations (Chapter X of the Sarkaria Commission's Report).

A draft consensus paper on the Role of Governor (Chapter-IV) of the Sarkaria Commission's report has been circulated to the Members of the Standing Committee and is proposed to be discussed in the fifth meeting of the Standing Committee).

The third meeting of the Inter-State Council was held on 17.7.1997. A major achievement of this meeting was approval of the alternative scheme of devolution of share in Central taxes to States. The share of the States will be 29% with effect from 1.4.1996. This will be reviewed in December 1997 with a view to improving it. No consensus emerged in this meeting on the question of amending article 356.

Instructions have been issued to the Administrative Ministries concerned to implement 54 recommendations as endorsed by the Inter-State Council. The Government is keen to complete action on the pending recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission at the earliest.

Employment Under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana in Karnataka

*4. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons provided with jobs under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) in the country during the last six months; and

(b) the number of persons provided with jobs under JRY in Karnataka during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) and

(b) Under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), the physical performance is monitored in terms of mandays generation and not in number of persons provided with jobs. During the last six

months (December, 1996 — May, 1997), as per data furnished by States, 2022.30 lakhs mandays of employment in the country as a whole, including 139.32 lakhs mandays in Karnataka, has been generated.

Non-Adherence of Fire Safety Norms

*5. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent major fire incident in Uphaar Cinema in Delhi resulting in death of about 60 persons, and other sporadic fire incidents in Delhi, are the result of non-adherence of the fire safety norms;

(b) if so, whether certificates granted to these establishments were issued after mandatory checks; and

(c) what are the reasons for these fire incidents and what preventive and precautionary measures have been taken to avoid recurrence of the same?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) The Uphaar Cinema incident can be attributed to non-observance of fire safety measures and failure to take immediate action for evacuation of persons entrapped in the Cinema Hall.

(b) 'No Objection Certificate' from fire safety angle in respect of Uphaar Cinema was issue by Delhi Fire Service Department after ensuring the functionalability of fire safety equipment.

(c) The fire at Uphaar Cinema started from the transformer located at ground level of the complex. The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have got all the cinema halls and banquet halls inspected to ensure that shortcomings wherever noticed are removed.

District and State Level Telephone Advisory Committees in Gujarat

*6. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telephone Advisory Committees for all the District level and the State level in Gujarat Circle have been constituted;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Members of Parliament from the State have been nominated on all the District/State level Commitees representing their own constituencies in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) and (b) The Telephone Advisory Committees for Gujarat Telecom Circle and all the Telephone Districts therein have been constituted except for Bharuch and Sabarkantha Telephone Districts.

(c) to (e) As on date 28 MPs from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha have been nominated in various District/State level TACs in Gujarat Telecom Circle representing their constituencies as in Statement-I (*See* below) Eleven MPs both from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha as in Statement-II (*See* below) who have not conveyed their willingness or option regarding their adopted constituencies, are yet to be nominated.